



ESSO WEEKLY MEMO – DECEMBER 29, 2011

ACTION NEEDED

- 1. Third Party Administrator Q&A**
- 2. Early Steps Hands for Children's Week**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 3. The 19th Annual Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) Conference**
- 4. The University of Florida, Florida Outreach Project for Children and Young Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind Statewide Conference: Strategies for Understanding and Enhancing the Communicative and Cognitive Competencies of Children with Severe and Multiple Disabilities**

ACTION NEEDED

- 1. Third Party Administrator Q&A**
(With 1 Attachment)

In the October 6 Weekly Memo we included the item below. New questions submitted and answers are in the attachment, *TPA_Q&A_Dec27.xls*. Please continue to send your questions as requested and the Q&A document will be updated with the new questions and answers.

The LES TPA Team would like to be the contact point for LES questions about TPA functions and security roles. They will read through them and put together talking points for the next Director's Call, provide Q&A documents in the Weekly Memo, as well as bring to the TPA Meeting Agendas items as needed. As a reminder your LES TPA Team includes, Penny Geiger, Ray Rodriquez, Harry Fogle, Kathy

Riley, Donna Smoker, Juliana Melara and John Lee. Please send your questions to Penny Geiger at pgeiger@shhpens.org.

2. Early Steps Hands for Children's Week

Children's Week 2012 is coming up this month, **January 29th-Feb 3rd**, and we would *love* to see Early Steps children's hands hanging in the Capitol. Please **use the following instructions to submit children's hand artwork**:

Traces of children's hands and children's hand artwork should be stapled onto string or ribbon **vertically** in lengths of 8 to 10 feet. **Hands must be hung vertically and strung together before mailing.** Please secure hands firmly to string/ribbon - do not send individual hands without connecting them to string/ribbon. You may decorate the hands with colorful artwork, stories and attach small pictures and posters (no larger than 11" x 14"). Please do not send large signs.

All artwork must be **postmarked no later than Friday, January 20th** and mailed to:

The Early Learning Coalition of the Big Bend Region
Northwood Centre
1940 N. Monroe Street, Suite 70
Tallahassee, FL 32303

If sending via mail, please list the contact information, organization and county the hands are being sent from. Please list your county name on the box, and on the back of the first set of hands and the last set of hands, so volunteers can hang the hands in the State Capitol Rotunda in order of counties.

UPCOMING EVENTS

3. The 19th Annual Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) Conference

Registration is open for the Annual CARD conference scheduled for January 13-15, 2012 in Orlando. Note that there is an Early Intervention track as well as excellent plenary sessions. This link is for the conference brochure:

http://www.ucf-card.org/images/stories/CARD/phocadownload/conference/documents/Brochure_2012_4.pdf. Registration information is available on each of the CARD websites which are identified in the brochure. To register for the conference, go to:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e59poq0v78adbca6&oseq=>

There will be a preconference again this year for training on administration of the Autism Diagnostic Observation Scale (ADOS) held January 11-12, 2012. More information about the preconference can be found at: http://www.ucf-card.org/index.php?option=com_eventbooking&view=event&Itemid=152

4. The University of Florida, Florida Outreach Project for Children and Young Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind Statewide Conference: Strategies for Understanding and Enhancing the Communicative and Cognitive Competencies of Children with Severe and Multiple Disabilities

Date: February 2 & 3, 2012

Location: Hawthorne Suites, Lake Buena Vista

Presenter: Philip Schweigert

Topics: Communication Development, Concept Development, The Learning Environment

For more information:

<http://www.deafblind.ufl.edu/HOME%20index.htm>